

REPORT

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SUBJECT Criticism of State Secretary in Government
Chancellery by Office Party Cell (SED)

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- On 3 December 1953 the SED Party Shop Organization (Betriebspartei-
organization) (BPO) of the East German Government Chancellery met to
discuss preparations for the approaching Fourth SED Party Congress.
- In a resolution (Entschliessung) distributed to members of the BPO,
Dr. Fritz Geyer, State Secretary in the Government Chancellery, was
accused of failing to carry out properly certain of his duties.¹/It
was stated that improvement in the professional tasks of the
Chancellery was being impeded by insufficient administrative coordin-
ation, since Geyer had failed to call the necessary meetings of main
department heads and had completely ignored the necessity of holding
discussions with the heads of departments directly subordinate to the
State Secretary.
- The membership of the BPO resolved that Geyer's attitude and his
complete ignoring of resolutions repeatedly agreed upon in the past
could no longer be tolerated. The Party Directorate was therefore
charged with the responsibility of drawing up a work plan which would
set up time limits to guarantee that in the future work discussions
could be conducted at regular intervals.

Comment. Geyer had been previously attacked in a meeting of the SED Party Shop Group held some weeks after 17 June 1953. A new employee of the Chancellery requested that Geyer report on his activities on 17 June because the rumor had been circulating that he wanted to flee to the West. To this Geyer declared that he had no such intentions. That he had been on leave in Dresden when the disturbances broke out and that he had contacted Grotewohl by telephone as soon as he had heard about the riots and had offered to return to Berlin immediately. Grotewohl thereupon told him that he would not have to interrupt his vacation.

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